

Judge Boyd has dedicated her career to making Tarrant County a better place to live, and her contributions to our community are undeniable. I join in congratulating her on her outstanding service and retirement.

HONORING JERRY HANAS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to honor Jerry Hanas and to wish him well upon his retirement as General Manager of the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District. Mr. Hanas's many years of service and expertise in his field have been a remarkable asset to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond. In honor of Jerry's retirement, a celebratory reception was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, at Sand Creek Country Club in Chesterton, Indiana.

Northwest Indiana's extensive transportation network earns this region's reputation for being the crossroads of America. Interstates 80, 94, 90, and 65 traverse our landscape, as do the railroad tracks servicing the Norfolk Southern, Canadian National, and CSX rail lines, connecting travelers and business interests alike from the East to West Coasts. Most notably, the South Shore Rail Line, a passenger rail service offered by the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), provides riders access to the environs of Chicago and its \$500 billion economy. Under Mr. Hanas's direction, NICTD and the South Shore Rail Line have flourished.

Established in 1908, the South Shore Rail Line provided passenger service to the city of Chicago as well as to the recreational opportunities found in Northwest Indiana, given its proximity to Lake Michigan and South Bend. With the advent of the interstate system, and the newfound ability to travel between neighboring communities with ease, ridership along the South Shore Rail Line began to decline. In order to prevent the complete loss of this asset, the state of Indiana created NICTD for the sole purpose of maintaining and operating the passenger line. Jerry Hanas was hired as the General Manager of NICTD upon its creation in June 1977, and it is here where he has served the railroad for 37 years.

NICTD's success is due to Jerry's competence, hard work, and dedication to a long-term vision in which passenger rail service is improved and expanded throughout the region. He effectively coordinated NICTD's purchase of the South Shore railroad and passenger assets, resulting in a stable and reliable relationship between the passenger and freight services. This acquisition required a steadfast commitment to a series of strategic investments to ensure the line's continuation. To that end, under Jerry's leadership, since 1977, over \$500 million has been dedicated to upgrading the rolling stock, stations, track, catenary, bridges, and signals associated with the line in order to enhance safety and to make much needed capacity-related track improvements.

Currently, NICTD is in the process of conducting the appropriate environmental studies as part of its effort to expand services to the

suburban areas in Northwest Indiana. This expansion is a key component to capitalizing upon our region's transportation network and maximizing economic development opportunities. Although Jerry Hanas retires this fall, he leaves a completely rebuilt and vibrant South Shore Rail Line to serve as his legacy and a well-established corporate vision to keep the momentum going for future generations.

Jerry's commitment to his career and to the community of Northwest Indiana has exceeded only by his devotion to his family. He and his wonderful wife, Nancy, have a daughter, Melissa, son-in-law, Tom, and one beloved grandson, Donovan. They also have one son, Roger, whose fiancée, Annie, will be joining Jerry's exceptional family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Jerry Hanas for his lifetime of leadership, service, and dedication to the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District. Jerry's impact on the region will be evident for generations to come, and he is worthy of the highest praise. I ask that you join me in wishing him well upon his retirement.

IN MEMORY OF DETECTIVE MICHAEL DAVID DAVIS, JR.

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representative DOUG LAMALFA, in honor of the service and sacrifice of Placer County, California, Sheriff Detective Michael David Davis, Jr.

A long-time resident of Roseville, Detective Davis was a man of integrity and compassion. He cared about the community and took initiative to protect and better it. Such an example would be when Michael organized a funeral for an abandoned baby.

On October 24th, Detective Davis displayed immense courage and gallantry during a manhunt for the murderer of a fellow officer, Sacramento County Deputy Sheriff Danny Oliver. Detective Davis was killed in the line of duty, just as his father was struck down 26 years prior to the day.

Detective Davis faithfully and honorably served the Placer County community, joining the Sheriff's office in 1996. For the past fifteen years, Michael contributed to his family's legacy of law enforcement, just as his father did before him. Michael tirelessly worked as a homicide investigator, but he will be remembered for much more.

His bravery and kind soul will never be forgotten. He was a family man, devoted to his loving wife and four children. Michael is also survived by his four siblings, mother and stepfather.

Mr. Speaker, Detective Michael David Davis, Jr. will be deeply and sorely missed not only by his family, but also by his community. The State of California, and particularly the Fourth Congressional District, was blessed to have had such a man of character and heroism protecting our citizens.

Michael's legacy will live on in the lives that he touched. Just as he served, he died embodying the virtues that form the foundation of this great nation. It is my privilege to rise in

recognition of his sacrifice for Placer County and to honor his memory.

CONGRATULATING VIRGINIA T. WOOD ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY ON NOVEMBER 12, 2014

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Virginia T. Wood on her 100th birthday. Ms. Wood has led a remarkable life as a lifelong resident of Chicago and has lived in my district for over 60 years.

Virginia Wood has devoted much of her time as a High School Physical Education Teacher for the Chicago Board of Education, teaching at several schools including South Shore High School and Bogan High School. Ms. Wood was then promoted to Coordinator of girl's athletics for the Chicago Board of Education, eventually retiring with over 26 years of service. Even after retirement, she remained an active supporter of girls high school sports.

Ms. Wood has enjoyed a very active life, continuing to swim and bowl until she reached the age of 96. She has never missed voting in an election, and became involved with the neighborhood watch program for the Chicago Police Department. She is a model participant in her community, and we should all try to emulate her outstanding service.

Ms. Wood has led an extraordinary life that has given so much to others. I join her many family members and friends in celebrating this event and I wish her more years of happiness, fulfillment, and health. Congratulations to Ms. Wood on her centennial birthday milestone.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARCUS HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate another stellar achievement by the Marcus High School Marching Band. This is the fifth time the Marcus High School Band has won first place in the University Interscholastic League (UIL) State Marching competition and been crowned state champions! The Marcus High School Marching Band has furthered their already impressive record of four consecutive state marching finals victories, cementing their UIL record.

The Marcus High School Marching Band has a talented and dedicated leadership team, headed by Amanda Drinkwater, Director of Bands, and Associate Directors: Kennan Wylie, Chase Howard, and David Simon as well as Color Guard Director, John Leonard. The student members of the Marauder Band have worked long hours over many months to bring their winning performance "Imperial Treasures" to fruition. They have been capably led by Drum Majors Amanda Elmendorf, Hannah Hadden, and Nicholas Kohn. Edward S. Marcus High School is located in Flower Mound, Texas within the Lewisville Independent School District. The school's administrators, teachers and students as well as its